

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for selectively applying course content updates in a learning management system, the method comprising the step of;

processing an update to course metadata without also processing an update to course content in the learning management system;

identifying within a course package a course metadata update to an associated course master;

determining whether to wholly reject said course metadata update to said associated course master, or to apply said course metadata update to said associated course master;

further determining whether to apply said course metadata update to existing course offerings based upon said associated course master, or whether to exempt said existing course offerings from said course metadata update.

2. Canceled.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, further comprising the steps of:

extracting a package identifier for said course package;

comparing said identifier with other identifiers associated with existing course masters disposed within the learning management system; and,

performing said identifying, determining and further determining steps only where said comparison indicates that said course package incorporates said update.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, further comprising the steps of:

listing said associated course master in a list of course masters slated for update; and,  
removing said listing responsive to wholly rejecting said course metadata update to said  
associated course master.

5. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for updating a course delivered  
through a learning management system, the method comprising the steps of:

authoring a course metadata update to an existing course deployed within the learning  
management system;

packaging said course metadata update in a course package without also packaging  
course content in said course package and importing said course package into the learning  
management system; and,

selecting whether to apply said course metadata update to all course offerings for said  
existing course, or only to new course offerings for said existing course.

6. (Original) An updateable learning management system comprising:

a learning management server coupled to a delivery server;

a database coupled to said learning management server and configured to store course  
masters arranged to describe course offerings for deployment in said delivery server; and,

update logic disposed within said learning management server, said update logic  
comprising programming for selectively updating course offerings disposed in said delivery  
server with one of updated course metadata alone, updated course content alone, and both

updated course metadata and course content, based upon a course update package uploaded into said learning management server.

7. (Original) The updateable learning management system of claim 6, further comprising an authoring tool programmed to produce update packages for importation into said learning management server.

8. (Original) The updateable learning management system of claim 6, further comprising a content server configured to be responsive to said delivery server for delivering course content to requesting clients in association with particular ones of said course offerings disposed in said delivery server.

9. (Currently Amended) A machine readable storage having stored thereon a computer program for selectively applying course updates in a learning management system, the computer program comprising a routine set of instructions which when executed by the machine cause the machine to perform the steps of:

processing an update to course metadata without also processing an update to course content in the learning management system;

identifying within a course package a course metadata update to an associated course master;

determining whether to wholly reject said course metadata update to said associated course master, or to apply said course metadata update to said associated course master; and,

further determining whether to apply said course metadata update to existing course offerings based upon said associated course master, or whether to exempt said existing course offerings from said course metadata update.

10. Canceled.

11. (Currently Amended) The machine readable storage of claim 940, further comprising the steps of:

extracting a package identifier for said course package; comparing said identifier with other identifiers associated with existing course masters disposed within the learning management system; and,

performing said identifying, determining and further determining steps only where said comparison indicates that said course package incorporates said update.

12. (Currently Amended) The machine readable storage of claim 940, further comprising the steps of:

listing said associated course master in a list of course masters slated for update; and,

removing said listing responsive to wholly rejecting said course metadata update to said associated course master.